



Photo courtesy of SCCWRP

Volunteers gathering samples from storm drains entering the San Gabriel River.

Award Amount

\$51,120

Watershed

San Gabriel River Watershed

County

Los Angeles County

CALFED Region

Southern California Region

Legislative Districts

US Congress: 25 and 26

State Assembly: 36 and 59

State Senate: 17 and 29

Purpose

Develop a citizen monitoring plan for the San Gabriel River Watershed and its tributaries.

Project Goals

- Develop a comprehensive Citizen Monitoring Plan through a stakeholder-driven process.
- Educate members of the community of the need to protect and conserve groundwater resources.
- Become a forum for community members to become involved in management of the watershed.
- Generate financial and community support and attract volunteers to implement the plan through outreach efforts.

Benefits to the CALFED Program

The San Gabriel River Watershed is located in the Los Angeles area, which imports large volumes of water from the Bay-Delta system. The Water Use Efficiency Program Plan states that improvements in urban water use efficiency and associated reductions can result in water savings that can be reallocated to meet other water uses resulting in benefits to water quality and the ecosystem. This project is implementing a citizen monitoring program that educates citizens in the watershed about groundwater protection and conservation, leading to better management of the groundwater in the San Gabriel River Watershed. Direct benefits will ensue, as imports to the watershed can be reduced, resulting in greater water supplies available for beneficial uses in the Bay-Delta system.

Project Overview

The project is located within the San Gabriel River Watershed, a largely urbanized coastal watershed of Los Angeles. The San Gabriel River Watershed imports water from the Bay-Delta system and also relies on groundwater for domestic water supplies. Capturing stormwater and diverting it into spreading basins recharges much of the groundwater, but there is still contamination by urban runoff in the watershed.

This project is developing a citizen monitoring plan to educate the San Gabriel River Watershed community about protection and conservation of their ground water resources. The plan includes a description of the watershed, existing monitoring efforts, evaluation of existing information, identification of data gaps, and other watershed information. Outreach materials are also being developed as a component of the project. The outreach materials are leading to an increased community awareness regarding water conservation and groundwater supply reliability.

Implementation of the citizen monitoring plan is providing a forum for the community and promoting community involvement in watershed management. The Plan includes the evaluation of the water quality impacts of different land uses, effectiveness of non-point source best management practices and landowner education. The monitoring plan will allow the success of different watershed measures to be evaluated.

Overall, the development and implementation of a citizen monitoring plan for the San Gabriel River Watershed is improving the education of community members about groundwater protection and conservation. This will provide an arena for the local communities to become involved in effective management of groundwater resources of the San Gabriel River Watershed.



Photo courtesy of SCCWRP

Sampling kits await volunteers for a day of sampling in the San Gabriel Watershed.

Contact Information

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